

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-11 SS-20 TRSE-00

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P R 191125Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0590

USINT ALGIERS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS KUWAIT 3479

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: BTRA, ETRD, EFIN, KU

SUBJ: US CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OFFICIALS VISIT TO KUWAIT

REF: A) STATE 175235; B) STATE 175238; C) JIDDA 4736; D) STATE
181113

1. IN CONTRAST TO SAUDI ARABIA (REF C) U.S./KUWAITI ECONOMIC
AND BUSINESS RELATIONSHIPS ARE NOT HIGHLY INSTITUTIONALIZED.
GOK OFFICIALS AND PRIVATE BUSINESSMEN HAVE CONTINUALLY ENCOURAGED
US TO URGE AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN TO VISIT KUWAIT FOR TALKS WITH
THEIR COLLEAGUES HERE. THEREFORE, WE BELIEVE KUWAITIS WILL BE
INTERESTED IN MORRISON/CALDWELL VISIT.

2. INITIAL RESPONSE FROM KUWAITIS IS QUITE POSITIVE. MINISTER
FINANCE AND OIL, ATEEQI AND MINISTER ELECTRICITY AND WATER
AL-GHANIM, AS WELL AS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INDUSTRY PRESIDENT
ABDULAZIZ AL-SAGAR HAVE ALL TOLD ME THAT THEY WOULD BE HAPPY
TO SEE MORRISON AND CALDWELL. BECAUSE KUWAIT CABINET MEETS
REGULARLY ON SUNDAY WE WILL HAVE TO TRY TO SQUEEZE APPOINTMENTS
WITH MINISTERS IN IMMEDIATELY AFTER ARRIVAL IN KUWAIT, HOLDING
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EMBASSY BRIEFING UNTIL AFTERNOON. OTHER MEETINGS, MAINLY WITH

PRIVATE BUSINESSMEN, CAN BE SCHEDULED FOR LATE SATURDAY AFTERNOON AND SUNDAY MORNING. MANY KEY KUWAITIS WILL BE OUT OF TOWN BUT I AM CONFIDENT WE CAN SET UP WORTHWHILE MEETINGS WITH OTHERS WHO WILL BE HERE. POSSIBLE KUWAIT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WILL HAVE SOME TYPE OF SOCIAL EVENT, BUT IF THEY DO NOT, I WILL HOST SOCIAL FUNCTION EVENING OF AUG 24.

3. BECAUSE OF VERY SHORT TIME AND FACT THAT SOME KEY DECISION MAKERS WILL BE OUT OF TOWN, BELIEVE MORRISON AND CALDWELL CAN HOPE ONLY TO INITIATE A DISCUSSION WITH KUWAITIS. THEY MAY, HOWEVER, FIND THAT KUWAITIS ARE INTERESTED IN SOME OF THEIR PROPOSALS AND ADDITIONAL FUTURE TRIPS HERE MAY BE CALLED FOR.
STOLTZFUS

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